CITIZENS PROJECT POSITION PAPER Toney 9/21/92
AMENDMENT #2

"Rights under the Constitution go to the equality of all citizens, the integrity and dignity of the individual, and should not be placed on any lesser ground." (To End All Segregation, p 50)

One of the major campaign strategies of CFV is to insinuate that straight people are, by virtue of their heterosexuality, superior to homosexuals. Several studies and statistics are vaguely alluded to in support of this claim. The similarities between this campaign by CFV and the last ditch efforts of the Southern segregationalists of the 1950s and 1960s are clear. The following quotes have been chosen to illustrate these similarities.

CFV often quotes disease, promiscuity and public menace statistics in its literature. Examples from What's Wrong with Special "Gay Rights"? follow:
"As a group, gays are **far more promiscuous** than heterosexuals."

"Although only about 2% of America's population, gays account for as much of 80% of some of the nation's most serious venereal disease cases."

"Homosexuals average more than 500 lifetime sexual partners." (Bill Armstrong's Aug 1991 letter) Note: Mr. Armstrong is much more cautious than some of his colleagues who estimate the **average** homeosexual has over 50,000 different sexual partners.

Compare this rhetoric with an editorial in the Jan. 1956 issue of Harper's Magazine:

"Southerners believe they have valid reasons, aside from 'prejudice' about the color of skin, for their insistence on sending white children to exclusively white schools.

"Health: 'The incidence of venereal disease for instance is much greater among Negroes than among whites.'

Marital habits: ' On the average one southern Negro child in five is illegitimate...Many white persons believe that morals among their own race are lax enough as it is, without exposing their children to an even more primitive view of sex habits.'

Crime: ' For many years, crime in the South has been more prevalent among Negroes than among white people."

Note that in the Harper's editorial as with the majority of CFV's information, no source is given.

CFV is also fond of claiming that Amendment #2 is not an attempt to take rights away from homosexuals, it is simply an attempt to prohibit special rights.

From Bill Armstrong's fund-raising letter of August 27,1991:
"First, gays already have the same recourse under law as the rest of us against physical assault and libelous or slanderous verbal abuse."

From T.Bilbo's, On White Supremacy:
"Equal and exact justice shall be accorded both races under the law, but segregation of the races shall be enforced."

Note the comparisons between the following justifications for prejudice:
"If our concern over legitimizing homosexual...behavior were **unreasoned**, we would indeed be guilty of prejudice, as 'homosexual rights' supporters claim. But reasoned distrust, grounded in knowledge of a host of significant facts about that lifestyle would not be prejudice, but prudence. (CFV Position Statement)

"Southerners believe they have valid reasons, aside from 'prejudice' about the color of skin, for their insistence on sending white children to exclusively white schools. Without debating superiority of either race, they are keenly aware of cultural differences....For whatever the reason may be, southern Negroes usually are below the intellectual level of their white counterparts...Few southern parents are willing to sacrifice their own offspring in order to level off intellectual differences..." (With All Deliberate Speed, p 90)

Another common smear tactic frequently used against women, Blacks and Hispanics with great success is "If these people are equal to us why aren't there any famous ones in the history books?" Note how it is used here against gays.

From David Noebel's, Homosexual/Bisexual Rights Hearings
"Generalizations of Sexuality from History:...b)The myths and legends of every society studied show heterosexuality predominating over homosexuality. ...e) Biographies indicate that the very large majority of the world's great achievers in all fields-- science, art, music, literature, political affairs, athletics, business--were heterosexual and/or married."

From T. Bilbo, On White Supremacy:
"First, the white race has founded, developed, and maintained every civilization known to the human race."
"The superior ability of the white race has been proven craniologically and by 6,000 years of planet-wide experimentation."
"Against these achievements, what has the African to offer? What history? What art? What science? What morality?"

There are also several appropriate similarities in information that is frequently used by CFV that is not necessarily in

pamphlet form. The following quotes may be helpful in this regard.

To CFV's claim that the Founding Fathers intended this to be a Christian nation and never intended to provide civil rights for gays:

"The founders of this republic never dreamed of it being anything but a white nation. We owe an immeasurable debt to our forefathers who preserved us white through three hundred years of race contact." (Bilbo)

To Pastor Peters pamphlet "Death Penalty for Homosexuals" and CFV's claims of Christian religious superiority:

"History clearly shows that the white race is the custodian of the gospel of Jesus Christ and that the white man is entrusted with the spreading of that gospel." (Bilbo)

"What can be more foreign to the ideals of the Christian religion than amalgamation and miscegenation? Anyone who would, in the name of Christianity, make us a Negroid people betrays his religion and his race." (Bilbo)

To CFV's contradictory claims that we need less government interference, that the government controls too much and regulates too much, and that we must have a statewide amendment to keep this issue under local control (thereby insuring even more government control!):

"If the bill (civil rights) became law, the Southern representatives concluded, ' the basic and fundamental power of the states and the power of our local governments to regulate business and govern the relation of individuals to teach other will have been preempted.'" (To End All Segregation, p 74)

"The legislation now before the Congress is so drastic that I cannot support it. I do not believe that Federal compulsion can be properly employed under our Constitution to compel one group to share its rights with another at the same time and in the same place against its will. This is, in my opinion, an constitutional infringement upon one's right to choose his associates..." (To End All Segregation, p 164-165)

"Even many who favor integration indicate in correspondence to me that they oppose this legislation because it would give unprecedented power to Washington bureaucrats to try to force changes in human attitudes on the selection of associates, both in private as well as in public life." (To End All Segregation, p 165.) (Compare this to the often cited Madison, Wisconsin case.)

In response to CFV's claims that people should be able to hire who they want and rent to whom they want:

"We recognize the right of a Negro to hire Negroes in preference to white peple and the white employer has the same right." (Bilbo)

"Let them integrate the Waldorf and other large hotels, but permit the 'Mrs. Murphys,' who run small rooming houses

all over the country, to rent their rooms to those they choose."
(To End All Segregation, p. 51

In summary, bigotry seems to fall back on the same tried and true formulas time after time. Hopefully, it will fail this time and it has failed before.

Loevy, Robert To End All Segregation

Shoemaker, Don, ed. With All Deliberate Speed

(Both at Colorado College library)